

RENEW

STANDARDS

RENEW 2021 This January is time to...

Renew our **CONVICTIONS**
Renew our **STANDARDS**
Renew our **EXPECTATIONS**

"You do not rise to the level of your goals. You fall to the level of your system." James Clear, Atomic Habits

"Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded." James 4:7-8. ESV

The Sacred Space of Encounter (Holy Lines)

*Make every effort to live in peace with everyone and to be holy; without holiness no one will see the Lord.
Hebrews 12:14*

*But just as he who called you is holy, so be holy in all you do; for it is written: "Be holy, because I am holy."
1 Peter 1:15-16*

Therefore, since we have these promises, dear friends, let us purify ourselves from everything that contaminates body and spirit, perfecting holiness out of reverence for God. 2 Corinthians 2:7

"Elijah went before the people and said, 'How long will you waver between two opinions? If the Lord is God, follow him; but if Baal is God, follow him.' But the people said nothing. Then Elijah said to them, 'I am the only one of the Lord's prophets left, but Baal has four hundred and fifty prophets. Get two bulls for us. Let Baal's prophets choose one for themselves, and let them cut it into pieces and put it on the wood but not set fire to it. I will prepare the other bull and put it on the wood but not set fire to it. Then you call on the name of your god, and I will call on the name of the Lord. The god who answers by fire—he is God.' Then all the people said, 'What you say is good.' Elijah said to the prophets of Baal, 'Choose one of the bulls and prepare it first, since there are so many of you. Call on the name of your god, but do not light the fire.' So they took the bull given them and prepared it. Then they called on the name of Baal from morning till noon. 'Baal, answer us!' they shouted. But there was no

response; no one answered. And they danced around the altar they had made. At noon Elijah began to taunt them. 'Shout louder!' he said. 'Surely he is a god! Perhaps he is deep in thought, or busy, or traveling. Maybe he is sleeping and must be awakened.' So they shouted louder and slashed themselves with swords and spears, as was their custom, until their blood flowed. Midday passed, and they continued their frantic prophesying until the time for the evening sacrifice. But there was no response, no one answered, no one paid attention. Then Elijah said to all the people, 'Come here to me.' They came to him, and he repaired the altar of the Lord, which had been torn down. Elijah took twelve stones, one for each of the tribes descended from Jacob, to whom the word of the Lord had come, saying, 'Your name shall be Israel.' With the stones he built an altar in the name of the Lord, and he dug a trench around it large enough to hold two seahs of seed. He arranged the wood, cut the bull into pieces and laid it on the wood. Then he said to them, 'Fill four large jars with water and pour it on the offering and on the wood.' 'Do it again,' he said, and they did it again. 'Do it a third time,' he ordered, and they did it the third time. The water ran down around the altar and even filled the trench. At the time of sacrifice, the prophet Elijah stepped forward and prayed: 'Lord, the God of Abraham, Isaac and Israel, let it be known today that you are God in Israel and that I am your servant and have done all these things at your command. Answer me, Lord, answer me, so these people will know that you, Lord, are God, and that you are turning their hearts back again.' Then the fire of the Lord fell and burned up the sacrifice, the wood, the stones and the soil, and also licked up the water in the trench. When all the people saw this, they fell prostrate and cried, 'The Lord—he is God! The Lord—he is God!'" 1 Kings 18:21-39, NIV

HOW HE CALLED DOWN FIRE

Elijah redrew three lines (RESTORED STANDARDS)

Elijah did what he could do (created sacred space) for GOD to what only HE could do.

RENEWAL LINE #1:

We must restore the standard of _____

The Holy Scripture (the "LOGOS")

God's WORD = ELIJAH'S STANDARD

26, "...from morning til noon. 'Baal, answer us!' They shouted. But there was no response; **no one answered**

30-31, "Then Elijah said to all the people, 'Come here to me.' They came to him, and he repaired the altar of the Lord, which had been torn down. Elijah took twelve stones, one for each of the tribes descended from Jacob, to **whom the word of the Lord had come**, saying..."

36, "**At the time of sacrifice**, the prophet Elijah stepped forward and prayed: 'Lord, the God of Abraham, Isaac and Isreal, let it be known today that you are God..."

The Desecrated Word:

God's word is _____

God's word is _____

God's word is _____

God's word is _____

RENEWAL LINE #2:

We must restore the standard of _____

The Holy Space (the LIFESTYLE)

God's WAY = ELIJAH'S STANDARD

30-33, "Then Elijah said to all the people, "Come here to me.' They came to him, and he repaired the altar fo the Lord, which had been torn down. Elijah took twelve stones, one for each of the tribes descended from Jacob, to whom the word of the Lord had come...He arranged the word, cut the bull into pieces and laid it on the wood. Then he said to them, "Fill four large jars with water and pour it on the offering and on the wood."

"Don't ever take a fence down, until you know why it was put up in the first place." (G.K. Chesterton)

RENEWAL LINE #3:

We must restore the standard of _____

The Holy Spirit (the RHEMA WORD)

God's WILL = ELIJAH'S STANDARD

"After a long time, in the third year, the word of the Lord came to Elijah: 'Go and present yourself to Ahab, and I will send rain on the land.' So Elijah went to present himself to Ahab." 1 Kings 18:1-2, NIV

3 LINES WORTH DRAWING:

_____ : How do you treat God's word? As something HOLY, to be heeded, or optional, outdated, obsolete, offensive. Repent. Draw a line/ set a standard. GOD'S WORD IS HOLY - I WILL TREAT IS AS SUCH. **Draw a line "JESUS' WORD IS MY STANDARD"**

_____ : What “fences” have you taken down, lines have you crossed that you need to reestablish? What do you need to start doing, always, in an effort to arrange your life for God’s power, presence, and purpose to dwell? **Draw a line “Jesus’ WAYS are my STANDARDS**

_____ : What simple or great thing has God asked you to do that you haven’t simply obeyed? DO IT. **Draw a line “I WILL follow His WILL”**

*“Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from your presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and uphold me with a willing spirit.”
(Psalm 51:10-12, ESV)*